From: John Hightower
To: Microsoft Settlement
Date: 1/13/02 7:02pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

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Microsoft Settlement U.S. Department of Justice-Antitrust Division 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

## Dear Microsoft Settlement:

It is time for this anti-consumer trial, and the wasteful spending accompanying it, to be over. Consumers will see competition in the marketplace, rather than the courtroom, when this dinosaur is laid to rest.

Then Microsoft can get back into the business of innovating and creating better products for consumers, and stop wasting tons of time and other valuable resources on litigation. It's their competitors who can't make it in the marketplace, not the end users and ordinary people who have to rely on their computers to be productive, who benefit from this anti-trust, anti-consumer exercise in poor government.

Competition means creating better goods and offering superior services to consumers, not making it possible for other businesses to keep making products that people don't want and won't buy. With government out of the business of stifling progress and tying the hands of successful corporations, people who actually use the software - rather than bureaucrats and judges - will once again pick the winners and losers. With the chains off the high-tech industry, more entrepreneurs will be encouraged to create new and competitive products and technologies, instead of funding to the tune of hundreds of thousands or more dollars the parties and politicians who represent these market-loser businesses.

Sincerely,

John Hightower